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SCIENCE

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 8, 1911

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ADDRESS OF THE PRESIDENT OF THE BRITISH ASSOCIATION FOR THE ADVANCEMENT OF SCIENCE¹

It is now eighty years since this association first met at York, under the presidency of Earl Fitzwilliam. The object of the association was then explicitly stated: "To give a stronger impulse and a more systematic direction to scientific inquiry, to promote the intercourse of those who cultivate science in different parts of the British Empire with one another and with foreign philosophers, to obtain a more general attention to the objects of science and a removal of any disadvantages of a public kind which impede its progress."

In 1831 the workers in the domain of science were relatively few. The Royal Society, which was founded by Dr. Willis, Dr. Wilkins, and others, under the name of the "Invisible, or Philosophical College," about the year 1645, and which was incorporated in December, 1660, with the approval of King Charles II., was almost the only meeting-place for those interested in the progress of science; and its *Philosophical Transactions*, begun in March, 1664-5, almost the only medium of publication. Its character was described in the following words of a contemporary poem:

"This noble learned Corporation
Not for themselves are thus combined
To prove all things by demonstration
But for the public good of the nation
And general benefit of mankind."

The first to hive off from the Royal Society was the Linnean Society for the promotion of botanical studies, founded in 1788 by Sir James Edward Smith, Sir

¹ Portsmouth, 1911.

Teaching, are entirely made up of physicians and fully represent the medical profession. Meanwhile, no one is better acquainted with the needs of the people in regard to the prevention and cure of disease and the preservation of health and healthful conditions than the medical profession itself. And that the medical profession may be even more capable of caring for these needs, nothing is more important than the continued improvement of medical education.—*Journal of the American Medical Association*.

SCIENTIFIC JOURNALS AND ARTICLES

THE contents of the *Journal* of the Washington Academy of Sciences for August are as follows:

Physics.—“Melting Temperatures of Sodium and Lithium Metasilicates,” F. M. Jaeger.

“A Method for Determining the Density of certain Solids by means of Rohrbach’s Solution having a Standard Refractive Index,” H. E. Merwin.

Electricity.—“A Study of the Current Transformer with Particular Reference to Iron Loss,” P. G. Agnew.

Geochemistry.—“Minerals and Rocks of the Composition $MgSiO_3$ — $CaSiO_3$ — $FeSiO_3$,” Robert B. Sosman.

Mineralogy.—“Crystallized Turquoise from Virginia,” Waldemar T. Schaller.

“Quartz and Fluorite as Standards of Density and Refractive Index,” H. E. Merwin.

“The Temperature Stability Ranges, Density, Chemical Composition and Optical and Crystallographic Properties of the Alkali Feldspars,” H. E. Merwin.

Petrology.—“A Micrometer Ocular with Coordinate Scale,” Fred Eugene Wright.

“The Lavas of Hawaii and their Relations,” Whitman Cross.

Paleontology.—“Remarks on the Fossil Turtles Accredited to the Judith River Formation,” F. H. Knowlton.

Zoology.—“Remarks on the Nervous System and Symmetry of the Crinoids,” Austin H. Clark.

Chemical Statistics.—“The Consumption of the Commoner Acids in the United States,” Charles E. Munroe.

Abstracts.—Geodesy; Meteorology; Terrestrial Magnetism; Electricity; Radio-telegraphy; Chemistry; Electrochemistry; Agricultural

Chemistry; Mineralogy; Geology; Botany; Forestry; Zoology; Conchology; Fisheries; Pharmacology; Bacteriology; Sanitation; Engineering.

Proceedings.—Washington Academy of Sciences.

SPECIAL ARTICLES

WHERE ARE THE LARAMIE DINOSAURS?¹

THE Ceratopsidae or horned dinosaurs have so long been regarded by paleontologists and others as belonging to the Laramie formation, and also that this “Laramie formation” containing them is of Cretaceous age, that facts which seem to oppose this view make but slow headway. That the true Laramie is of Cretaceous age no one is likely to question at this stage of the discussion, but the mistake lies in presuming that the dinosaur-bearing beds belong to the Laramie. At the Baltimore meeting of the Geological Society of America (December, 1908) I ventured to say, in a public discussion of one of the correlation papers, that there was no known locality in North America where dinosaurs (Ceratopsidae) occur in true, undoubted Laramie. To the best of my knowledge and belief that statement still holds good.

In June, 1909, I published a paper² in which the following is given as the thesis: “The present paper deals with the extensive series of fresh-water deposits of the northwest (*i. e.*, broadly, the region east of the Rocky Mountains and between Wyoming and the valley of the Mackenzie River) comprising what is here considered as the Fort Union formation. It is shown that the Fort Union embraces more than has been commonly assigned to it. Conformably below the beds by some geologists considered as the true Fort Union occur dark-colored sandstones, clays and shales, which have often been incorrectly referred to the Laramie, or its equivalents, but which are stratigraphically and paleontologically dis-

¹Published with the permission of the director of the U. S. Geological Survey.

²“The Stratigraphic Relations and Paleontology of the ‘Hell Creek Beds’ and Equivalents, and their Reference to the Fort Union Formation,” *Proc. Wash. Acad. Sci.*, Vol. 11, 1909, pp. 179–238.